

Woodlands Primary School and Nursery.

Parent Council Meeting:

Monday 7th December 2020

Present:

Sarah Bailey Kelly (VC)
Nicola Ferguson (HT)
Tracy Ann Wilson
Lynsey Robertson
Lindsey Shah
Helen Turnbull
Caroline Black

Apologies:

Claire Quinn
Fiona
Katie McConnell
Alison Burgess

1. Head Teachers Update

- HT expressed that staff continue to work hard maintaining safety standards and acknowledges this can be hard going for the staff. We are fortunate school has had no confirmed cases and low isolation numbers.
- Fogging machine is in use to clean and sanitise rooms at lunch time and in the nursery cleaning all toys and again in the evening. Makes a difference for staff and gives everyone confidence that the school is doing as much as possible.
- Tier 4 restrictions have stopped all indoor activity - gym hall and ICT room are currently closed. Access to gym hall for yoga only and ICT room will resume in January.
- The current challenge for the school at present is to ensure children have warm clothes for all weather as outdoor time is important for fresh air and movement. Communications have been issued to parents reminding about outdoor play and doors open for ventilation to encourage parents to include weatherproof and extra clothes.
- HT has been seeking feedback from kids regarding being back to school and COVID restrictions. Kids responses centred around how good it was to be able to see friends and be outside and enjoying routine of being back at school. HT reiterated how important this is to the wellbeing of kids. Kids are very good at rules and procedures and HT pleased with kids and staff following procedures and processes.
- HT keen to ensure the school keep working towards the Improvement plan:
 - Health & Wellbeing is a priority and vitally important to support kids.
 - Digital Learning on TEAMS – minimal uptake via teams, but kids know how to use and access learning if ever required for blending learning.
 - STEM learning – not lose momentum built over last year.

Action: * No Actions. *

2. Health & wellbeing Support for Families – what is available in School and how can PC support this?

- HT confirmed that currently Teachers are the only service with face to face time with children. Usual school-based support groups are not able to work due to current restrictions and class bubbles.
- Some other services e.g. Speech and Language and Educational Psychologists offering remote support and checking on priority students with some having access to video conferencing.
- School has previously issued paper support material via school blog and will do so again. The following organisations may also have resources PC could distribute.
 - CALMS – group work with emotional and support,
 - Solihull courses/support materials to access for free.
- Seasons for Growth visit planned for after Christmas (pending restrictions update) which will offer support to children experiencing bereavement/significant change and other challenging circumstances.
- HT welcomes Parents to call anytime if needed and school will support families in any way they can through year, as well as lockdown and Christmas.

Action: * HT TO REDISTRIBUTE SUPPORT MATERIALS. *

Action: * PC TO DISCUSS VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNINGS TO SUPPORT PARENTS. *

3. Update on work plans for children isolating/shielding (esp given level 4 status)

- The response is dependent on the circumstances. If isolating/shielding as instructed by NHS, the protocol in place is Class Teacher will set personal assignments for children on TEAMS. This is only available for children who are on test and trace and is in play now.
- There is no obligation to complete this work and school understand that where a parent is unwell this could be difficult.

• **Action: *No Actions. ***

4. Monthly Competitions

- October and November prizes issued by HT.
- December competition: Design a Christmas Card is ongoing until 13 December. Kirsty is collating these entries and 1 winner to be selected after 13th.
- January competition: Burns related: design outfit, tartan, poem - Lindsey to manage.

Action: * KIRSTY TO MANAGE CHRISTMAS CARD COMP. *

Action: * LINDSEY TO MANAGE BURNS COMPETITION . *

5. Parking Charges

- Local Authority has suspended implementing charges for car parks around the school. It is assumed this will become an issue again in the future.
- Local councillor has advised that petitions for any future action should be raised by the Parent Council.

Action: * PC TO MONITOR ACTION. *

6. Community Champion Voucher

- HT unable to apply given tight deadlines.
- In addition, local charity Cumbernauld Resilience has offered support for school community who may require assistance for Christmas and for ongoing support. Families can be referred via the HT (all enquiries will be confidential).

Action: * PC WILL PROMOTE AND SUPPORT SCHOOL COMMUNITY THROUGH FB COMMS. *

7. School Photographs

- Given current restriction in place annual school photographs have been postponed. This will be rescheduled as and when restrictions allow.

Action: * No Actions. *

8. School paths

- PC raised concerns about gritting of all access points and paths. Main route around the school is often flooded and muddy making it difficult to maintain social distancing, and the path up to the nursery feels unsafe in winter given its steepness and angle underfoot.
- HT confirmed that all paths from gates to school buildings are gritted and maintained by school. Paths surrounding school are not and any concerns should be addressed to the Local Authority.
- The Local Authority have previously been approached regarding the nursery path and were unable to provide further solution. PC should raise this directly with LA if they wish.

Action: *PC TO REVIEW AND ACTION IF AGREEABLE. *

9. Online Fundraising

- Easyfundraising.org.uk allows fundraising opportunities through donations made when making purchases online. No additional spend required, just use a direct link to before placing order. Major retailers included in scheme - TESCO, Boots, ebay, Amazon, Argos M&S.

Action: * HELEN TO REPORT BACK WITH MORE INFORMATION. *

10. Outdoor Toy donations

- PC offering support to engage with school community to collect outdoor equipment for use during outdoor time if required.
- Through general discussion this was considered too impractical to facilitate under restrictions – requirement for cleaning, storing and unable to share etc.

Action: * No Actions. *

11. 2021 Nursery/School Applications

- Details still to be confirmed. HT will issue and email when forms become available.

Action: * HT WILL INFORM PARENTS WHEN INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. *

12. Any other Business

- School communications have been issued:
 - No Christmas Cards are to be distributed this year due to COVID restrictions.
 - Class Christmas parties will take place on 18th December.
- Other festive events may take place if restrictions allow.
- Next meeting scheduled for Monday 11th January 2020 at 1.30pm.
- Items not discussed today and carried forward:
 - Treasurers update
 - Update from NLC meeting

Action: * No Actions. *

End of meeting.